

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY-PARISH OF LAFAYETTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 29, 2003.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL: Jerry Trumps (Chair - District 6), Robert Castille (Vice Chair - District 2), Bobby Badeaux (District 1), Chris Williams (District 3), Louis C. Benjamin, Jr. (District 4), Lenwood Broussard (District 5), Marc Mouton (District 7), Rob Stevenson (District 8)

ABSENT: Randy Menard (District 9)

COUNCIL STAFF: Norma Dugas (Clerk of the Council), Veronica Williams (Assistant Clerk of the Council) and Monica Fontenot (Administrative Assistant)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: Walter Comeaux (City-Parish President), Glenn Weber (CAO), Steve Dupuis (City-Parish Attorney), Benny Soulier (Director of Administrative Services), Chief Robert Benoit (Fire Department), Chief Ronnie Boudreaux (Police Department), Gerald Boudreaux (Director of Parks & Recreation), Becky Lalumia (Director of Finance & Management), John Raines (Director of Public Works)

COMMENCEMENT

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(001)AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to order.

Chair Jerry Trumps called the Special Council Meeting of July 29, 2003 to order.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(003)AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Marc Mouton was called upon to deliver the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Trumps announced there will be a public hearing regarding the proposed FY 2003-2004 budget held on September 8, 2003 at 5:30 pm. He continued by stating there will be both an LPPA and LPUA meeting held immediately following this meeting to introduce the budgets for those authorities.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(022)AGENDA ITEM NOS. 3-4: A motion was offered by Mouton, seconded by Badeaux, to approve for introduction the following ordinances, in-globo, and the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Badeaux, Castille, Williams, Benjamin, Broussard, Trumps, Mouton, Stevenson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Menard

RECUSED: None

Motion was approved

INTRODUCTORY ORDINANCES

3. O-184-2003 An ordinance of the Lafayette City-Parish Council adopting an Operating Budget of revenues and expenditures for the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government for the fiscal year beginning November 1, 2003, and ending October 31, 2004.
4. O-185-2003 An ordinance of the Lafayette City-Parish Council adopting a Multi-Year Capital Improvement Program for the Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government, commencing with Fiscal Year 2003-04.

Lafayette City-Parish President Comeaux read his annual President's Message regarding the 2003-2004 proposed budget. The proposed budgetary considerations include a balanced budget due to the absence of new revenues. In the current and proposed fiscal years, LCG has experienced a collective \$3.3 million increase in employee contributions to the statewide fire, police and to a lesser extent, the other retirement systems to which the consolidated government belongs. With the arrival of November 1, 2003, the budget process to implement new pay plans for the Fire and Police Department's and the City Marshal's operation, will enable LCG to more effectively recruit and retain police officers and firefighters who serve us as a front line in keeping our community safe in today's post-9-11 world.

He continued that there will also be a 4% salary increase for employees that are considered non-

fire and police employees. Because of the pro-active administration of LCG’s self-insured employee hospitalization program, LCG employees will avoid insurance increases. Lafayette Parish ranks 2nd in the state for new job growth and ranks 3rd in the state in per capita. He then thanked Associate CAO/Finance & Management Becky Lalumia, CAO Glenn Weber and all directors for working together as a team during the budget preparation effort. As his last budget message to the Council, he stated he felt privileged to have led a resourceful and dedicated group of governmental professionals who truly know the business of government. In closing, with all that has been accomplished under the first two terms of the consolidated government, it would not have been possible without the unfailing support and resources that the community has given.

Becky Lalumia, Associate CAO/Finance & Management, gave a brief overview of the proposed budget. The total budget for 2003-2004 is \$431,036,020. She explained that utilities sales make up 39%, which is the largest of revenues, and second largest are taxes, which are at 22%. The largest component of the proposed appropriations is operations, which is 57%. In comparing last year’s total revenues with the proposed revenues; there is a \$1.8 million net increase. The following is the new property tax revenues and property tax growth rate for the proposed budget:

<u>New Property Taxes</u>	
Library Operations & Construction	1.63 mills
Library Bonded Debt	1.37 mills
Police Salaries & Related Benefits	3.00 mills
Fire Salaries & Related Benefits	2.00 mills

<u>Property Tax Growth Rate</u>
Parish = 4%
City = 3%

LCG has a total of 2,164 employees, which is an increase of 23 from 2002-2003. Other changes not related to new positions include the following:

- Police Pay Plan Adjustments
- Fire Pay Plan Adjustments
- City Marshal Pay Plan Adjustments
- Others – General Increase
- Retirement Systems

She also highlighted appropriations that include a new golf course, traffic improvements, library expansion and some increases in LUS operations. The sales tax CIP includes the new golf course, intersection improvements, signal system replacement, IT plan and departmental capital. The proposed revenues for LUS totals more than \$175 million and the 5-year capital outlay program is \$190,777,000. Out of the \$190 million, \$182.5 million is from bonds proceeds. The proposed budget for the City of Lafayette’s 5-year capital is \$169,534,418 with 60% coming from bond proceeds.

At this time, Chair Trumps announced that budget hearings are scheduled to begin on August 6 at 5:00 pm. Upon questioning by Stevenson, Lalumia explained a 2% increase in parish sales tax was projected above the 16% decline that was projected for this year. At the present time, the parish sales tax is at –7% year to date.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(307)AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Comments from the public concerning the above Introductory Ordinances.
No speakers.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chair Trumps declared the Special Council meeting adjourned.

Norma A. Dugas
Clerk of the Council